

Message Text

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12

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 /071 W

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O R 281046Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6199

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USUN

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GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, FR, EG, XF

SUBJECT: SADAT VISIT: Giscard's Toast

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED:

1. AN INFORMAL EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF A PORTION OF
PRESIDENT GISCARD'S TOAST TO PRESIDENT SADAT AT A DINNER
GIVEN JANUARY 27 FOLLOWS:

2. "... FRANCE IS PERSUADED THAT IT IS POSSIBLE TO
END THIS (NEAR EASTERN) CONFLICT AND TO BUILD THE CONDI-
TIONS FOR PEACEFUL, LASTING DEVELOPMENT FROM THE
MOMENT THAT ONE ACCEPTS TO CONSIDER AS SUCH THAT WHICH
THE DIGNITY AND THE RIGHTS OF THE CONFLICTING PARTIES
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DEMAND: THE RIGHT OF THE ARAB COUNTRIES TO RECOVER THEIR

TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY BY THE EVACUATION OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES; THE RIGHT OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, LIKE OTHER PEOPLES OF THE WORLD, TO HAVE A HOMELAND ("PATRIE"); THE RIGHT OF ISRAEL, LIKE OTHER STATES OF THE REGION, TO LIVE IN SECURE, RECOGNIZED, AND I WOULD ADD, EFFECTIVELY GUARANTEED BOUNDARIES.

3. "WE CERTAINLY DO NOT PRETEND TO DICTATE TO THE STATES INVOLVED THE METHODS AND THE ROAD TO PEACE. IT IS CLEAR THAT WE DO NOT HAVE THE MEANS. BUT I STATE THE CONVICTION THAT THE RETURN TO A SITUATION OF PEACE IN THE NEAR EAST IS ESSENTIALLY A MATTER OF EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL POLITICAL WILL. TECHNICALLY AND DIPLOMATICALLY, ONE CAN PERCEIVE THE NATURE OF A POSSIBLE SETTLEMENT. I DECLARE THAT THE CHANCES OF AN EQUITABLE SETTLEMENT FOR ALL THE COUNTRIES INVOLVED ARE GREATER TODAY THAN THEY HAVE BEEN UNTIL NOW, THANKS TO THE DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY CARRIED OUT OVER THE LAST YEAR, TO WHOSE EFFECTIVENESS YOU HAVE PERSONALLY CONTRIBUTED, AND THANKS TO THE RECOGNITION OF CERTAIN OBJECTIVE REALITIES TO WHICH FRANCE HAS GIVEN IMPETUS FOR SIX MONTHS.

4. "I ALSO DECLARE THAT THE CHANCES FOR AN EQUITABLE SOLUTION ARE GREATER TODAY THAN THEY EVER COULD BE IN A SITUATION CREATED FOLLOWING THE OUTBREAK OF AN ARMED CONFLICT, WHATEVER CALCULATION MIGHT INSPIRE IT.

5. "WE WELCOME, MR. PRESIDENT, ALL PROGRESS TOWARDS THIS EQUITABLE SOLUTION, ON THE SOLE CONDITION THAT THIS PROGRESS REPRESENT A FURTHER STEP IN SEEKING THE GLOBAL SOLUTION AND NOT AN ALIBI FOR POSTPONING ITS REALIZATION...."

6. GISCARD ALSO SAID HE WAS HAPPY TO NOTE THAT SADAT RECENTLY STATED THAT "EGYPT, FOR ITS PART, IS READY TO CONCLUDE A PEACE AGREEMENT WITH ISRAEL". END UNCLASSIFIED.

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7. COMMENT: THE ADDITION TO THE TRADITIONAL FRENCH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FORMULA SUPPORTING "SECURE AND RECOGNIZED" BOUNDARIES OF THE "EFFECTIVELY GUARANTEED" MODIFIER REPRESENTS AN EVOLUTION IN THE FRENCH PUBLIC POSITION. THIS CHANGE, AND GISCARD'S HOPEFUL ASSESSMENT, ARE SIGNS OF CONTINUING FRENCH INTEREST IN PLAYING A ROLE IN THE SETTLEMENT PROCESS.

8. THE FRENCH PRESS INTERPRETS GISCARD'S FAVORABLE

MENTION OF "DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY CARRIED OUT OVER THE
LAST YEAR" AS A VEILED COMPLIMENT TO SECRETARY KISSINGER.
FRENCH "IMPETUS" GIVEN TO RECOGNIZING "CERTAIN
OBJECTIVE REALITIES" REFERS, OF COURSE, TO
SAUVAGNARGUES' MEETING WITH ARAFAT AND OTHER FRENCH
GESTURES TO THE PLO. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SPEECHES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PARIS02291
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750030-1162
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750114/aaaaamjo.tel
Line Count: 122
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <19 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SADAT VISIT: GISCARD'S TOAST BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED
TAGS: PFOR, FR, EG, XF, (GISCARD D'ESTAING, VALERY), (SADAT, ANWAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006